

REMARKS / AGRUMENTS

Response to Objection to claims 33-39

Claim 33 has been amended to remove a typological error (the word packet has been written twice) to overcome the objection due to an informality. Therefore, claim 33 and its dependent claims 34-49 are patentable and should be allowed.

Response to § 103 Rejections of Claims 1, 5, 8, and 12

Claims 1, 5, 8 and 12 stand rejected under § 103(a) as allegedly being anticipated by Kaplan (U.S. patent 6141339) in view of Smith et al. (U.S. patent 6128649). The applicant canceled all the rejected claims 1, 5, 8, and 12 without prejudice.

Allowable subject Matter

Claims 2-4, 6, 7, 9-11, 13-22 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 2-4, 7, 9,10,13, 14 and 21 have been amended to include the limitations of claim 1.

Claim 11 depends upon claim 10 that was amended according to the examiner's suggestion.

Claims 15-20 depend upon claim 14 that was amended according to the examiner's suggestion.

Claim 22 depends upon claim 21 that was amended according to the examiner's suggestion.

Thus, the objection to claims 2-4, 6, 7, 9-11, 13-22 has been overcome.

The applicant would like to thank the examiner for allowing claims 23-32.

Conclusion

Having tendered the above remarks and amended the claims as indicated herein, Applicants respectfully submit that all rejections have been addressed and that the claims are now in a condition for allowance, which is earnestly solicited.

If there are any additional fees due in connection with this communication, please charge our deposit account no. 02-2666. If a telephone interview would in any way expedite the prosecution of the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact Elena Dreszer at (408) 947-8200 ext. 209.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: March 16, 2005



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